



PARK BELL

ST. MARY'S PARK IMPROVEMENT CLUB

Greetings Friends & Neighbors! Bienvenidos! Mabuhay! Bon Giorni! 您好

March, 1998

SMPIC's \$20 Dues... The Last Great Bargain

By Erik Poole & Danna Peterson,
SMPIC Membership Committee

SMPIC MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE what it used to be and it certainly doesn't go far these days. For example, you could spend twenty dollars for a cab ride to and from City Hall to complain but wouldn't it be easier to voice your concerns directly to one of the City Supervisors at an SMPIC meeting? The St. Mary's Park Improvement Club addresses our concerns with the city government and its agencies. Why not come down and put your concerns on the list?

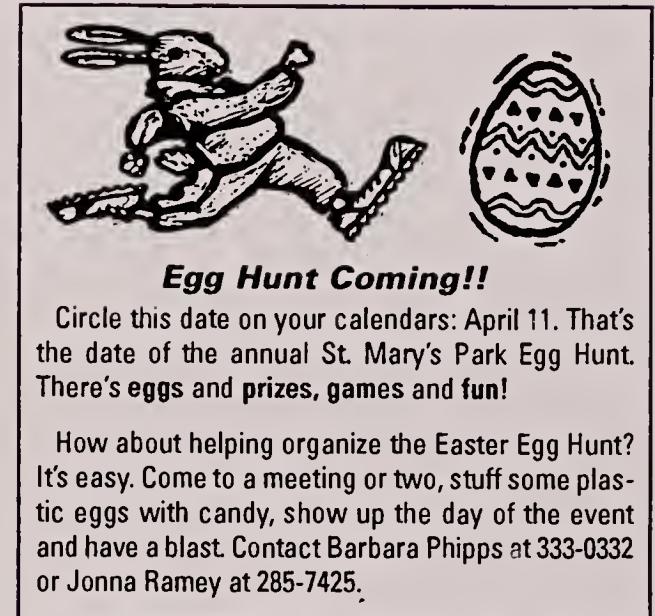
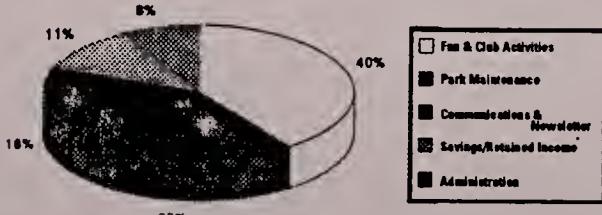
Twenty dollars worth of gas would get you out of town ... maybe even all the way to Tahoe. But if you spent that money on your SMPIC dues, you'd be supporting events that make you want to stay home instead such as the the annual St. Mary's Park picnic.

Twenty dollars would also buy you a nice potted orchid at the Farmer's Market or, it could help maintain the beauty of the entire neighborhood of St. Mary's Park. The beautiful setting of St. Mary's Park, with it's grassy islands, makes this neighborhood unique. It makes all our property values higher, and our lives a little more "green." The \$20 a year in dues is worth it just for bragging rights about how beautiful our neighborhood is!

And, during the holidays you could easily spend \$20 on an Easter basket or taking the kids to see Santa...if you can find a parking place. Why not invest in a \$20 membership to SMPIC and attend our annual Easter Egg Hunt and receive a personal visit from Santa, to your own house in December!

When you look at all the things that your \$20 doesn't buy today, the \$20 membership dues to the St. Mary's Park Improvement Club stack up pretty well. So why not invest in your neighborhood today? Join the St. Mary's Park Improvement Club...the last great bargain. After all, you can't put a price on the warm sense of community and neighborhood pride you'll feel as a result of supporting the Club.

St. Mary's Park Improvement Club Annual Dues Breakdown



Egg Hunt Coming!!

Circle this date on your calendars: April 11. That's the date of the annual St. Mary's Park Egg Hunt. There's eggs and prizes, games and fun!

How about helping organize the Easter Egg Hunt? It's easy. Come to a meeting or two, stuff some plastic eggs with candy, show up the day of the event and have a blast. Contact Barbara Phipps at 333-0332 or Jonna Ramey at 285-7425.

Stucco Homes, El Niño & You

If you own or live in a stucco house, then the March SMPIC meeting is for you. Representatives from Cole Hardware, Golden Gate Termite & Construction and other contractors will participate in a panel discussion about how to spot weather damage, what to do to protect your home from it, and when to call a contractor. The discussion should be lively and the topic is very relevant to us all during this soggy winter. So mark your calendar: Tuesday March 10th at 7:30 PM. Refreshments will also be served.

SUNSHINE CORNER

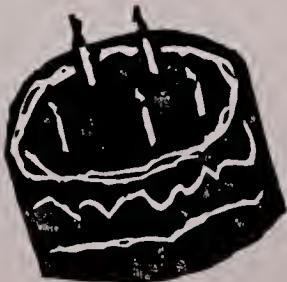
By Armando Pulido

New Neighbors!!

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our new neighbors, Bart, Linda and their dog, "Bo", as well as Nathine and Janet Caffo and their dog, "Zoe". Howdy, neighbors! Hope to see you at our monthly meetings and around the nabe.

Birthdays...

A special Birthday wish to a long-time St. Mary's Park resident, Ann Payne-- 101 years young!!



Condolences...

To the family of Ray Holmer, past president of SMPIC, and longtime Park resident. This native of South Dakota was 87 years old and died peacefully in his sleep.

Also, condolences to the family of Adelaide Schmierer, who was a 40 year St. Mary's Park resident.

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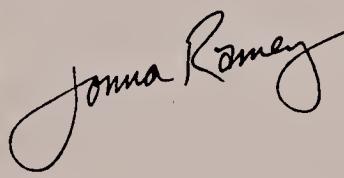


1998 St. Mary's Park Improvement Club Officers

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Sunshine Person	Armando Pulido	239-4221	apulido536@aol.com
Park Bell Editor	Pam Waterstone	585-5156	rlowey@sirius.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I've started mailing our newsletter to the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor and other City officials. It's my belief that they should know about us and we should know about them. And, our newsletter is a beautiful representation of our Club. I'd like to extend a hearty thank you to our editor, Pam Waterstone and our publisher, Florence Kolos. They do some excellent work. And, while I'm extending thanks, let's also give a nod to Danna Peterson who provided refreshments at last month's meeting. Great chocolate cake. In keeping with the gardening theme of our April meeting (yes, next month, not this month), I will resurrect the President's Garden Awards. So, spiff up those yards, folks. Also, we've collected dues from 75 households. If you haven't yet sent in your dues, now is a good time. Take a moment, fill out the enclosed coupon and mail it in. The Club survives and thrives on your support. Finally, I think that under all these cloudy skies, Spring is taking place. Be sure and get out in the fresh air any time you can. Happy 101st Birthday, Anna!

Upcoming Club Events

March 10 Club Meeting Topic: Stucco Homes, El Niño & You Guests: Representatives from Cole Hardware, Golden Gate Termite & Construction & others.

April 11 Spring Egg Hunt Special guest: The Easter Bunny.

April 14 Club Meeting Topic: Spring Gardening & Neighborhood Flower Show Guests: Glen Lamontagne, Sunset Nursery & Florence Kolos, SF Rose Society.

May 12 Club Meeting Guest speaker: Supervisor Jose Medina.

CLASSIFIED

DESPERATELY SEEKING A HOME: SMP family searching for an AFFORDABLE 2 bedroom apartment, flat, etc. Would prefer to stay in the area, but open to possibilities. Our one year old son needs to spread his wings! If anyone knows or hears of anything, please contact Bea or Neil at 648-0564.

Interested in starting a neighborhood classified section in the Park Bell? If so, please send me your entries (you can e-mail me at rlowey@sirius.com or drop it in my mailbox at 40 Genebern) and I will put them in the next available newsletter--space permitting, of course. And remember, it's FREE, FREE, FREE!!!

Want a Tree?

Friends of the Urban Forest is offering to plant trees in our neighborhood for only \$25 each. What a deal! You pick the spot and you pick the tree(s). This is a golden opportunity to improve our neighborhood one yard at a time. Trees add to your property value, and studies show that they also reduce crime, pollution, noise, and wind. To get a tree, call Brian Nores at 415-641-1312 from 8 AM to 10 PM.



What Can One Neighbor Do?

Recently, Jewel Walli, a neighbor, was over at the Park with her daughter and two of her friends (all 2 year olds). Without warning, a dog jumped through a hole in the fence and tackled one of the children. The little girl received only a small cut by her eye but was pretty scared. In the past, Jewel had written letters about the condition of the Park. This time, she got angry. She e-mailed supervisors, Rec. & Park officials and everyone who's address she could get hold of. The result? The fence has been repaired, the homeless dog owner has been asked to leave the Park and the dangerous tennis court wires have been removed. We're sorry that it took the endangerment of a small child to get some action from the various bureaucracies, but we applaud Jewel for raising her voice and being heard. Thanks, Jewel! What can one neighbor do? A lot.

REPORTING AN AN EMERGENCY

It's important for residents in the neighborhood to report any suspicious activity. People often think they're bothering the police, but that's not the case. The police want to hear from people. Citizens should realize that the number of police officers assigned to a neighborhood is based on the number of reported incidents and calls that are received from an area. The more vocal a neighborhood is, the more attention it gets from the police.

What To Report

According to officers at our Ingleside station, residents should call the station at 553-1603 and report any suspicious behavior they observe. They also encouraged residents to organize neighborhood watch groups. It has been documented that crime rates are less in neighborhoods with SAFE watch programs. Criminals don't like doing business in a neighborhood where people are watching!

Tips for Reporting an Emergency

Many times people claim they don't get the response they need from calling 911. Here are some tips for getting police to respond to an emergency quickly:

1. Use 911 for emergency calls only. If you're calling about a loud party or a suspicious looking character in your neighborhood don't tie up the 911 line. Instead, call the non-emergency number: 553-0123.

2. Don't play it down. Let the operator know it's a serious emergency. Let them know if there is a crime in progress and if weapons, alcohol or drugs are involved. If you don't tell the 911 operator these things, she or he will give your call a low priority.

3. Use a cordless phone and don't hang up until police get to your door. If you don't hang up the 911 operators will be able to locate your address even if you can't speak. If you're scared, you should tell the operator that you want to stay on the line until police arrive. With a cordless phone, you can move around, hide, if necessary and still stay connected. If something happens and the situation gets worse, the 911 operators will be able to alert police to get the scene faster.

4. Remember that 911 operators are trained civilians and do not have the same experience as police officers so give them as much information as you can.



Do you think that
if February March,
April May?



Thank you to the following St. Mary's Park neighbors for paying their 1998 dues!

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21 Agnon Ave.	206 Genebern Way
27 Agnon Ave.	235 Genebern Way
30 Agnon Ave.	245 Genebern Way
33 Agnon Ave.	19 Justin Drive
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332 College Ave.	239 Justin Drive
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400 College Ave.	257 Justin Drive
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520 College Ave.	130 Murray Drive
40 Genebern Way	136 Murray Drive
47 Genebern Way	144 Murray Drive
70 Genebern Way	225 Murray Drive
114 Genebern Way	244 Murray Drive
145 Genebern Way	

St. Mary's Park Improvement Club 1998 Membership Dues Payment Form

Yes, I want to support my neighborhood. Here's my check for \$20.

I'd like to contribute an additional \$ _____ to SMPIC.

I want to be an SMPIC volunteer.

Name(s) _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email Address and/or Fax Number _____

Address _____

The Club welcomes your ideas and input on how you would like to see your dues improve the Club.



Please make \$20 check payable to St. Mary's Park Improvement Club and mail to:
SMPIC, 2966 Diamond St., Suite 121, San Francisco CA 94131.